



Dkt. 64080/JPW/JM/SAB

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : David M. Stern, et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 09/872,185 Examiner: Jegatheesan Seharaseyon
Filed : June 1, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1647
For : METHODS FOR TREATING INFLAMMATION

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
March 21, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO JANUARY 21, 2003 RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT AND PETITION FOR A ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Communication is submitted in response to a January 21, 2003 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the January 21, 2003 Office Action was due February 21, 2003. Applicants hereby petition for a one-month extension of time. Applicants have previously established small entity status. The required fee for a one-month extension of time for a small entity is \$55.00 and a check for this amount is enclosed. Therefore, a response to the January 21, 2003 Office Action is now due March 21, 2003. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted the pending claims to one of the following allegedly distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

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- I. Claim 1, part of claims 7-9 and part of claims 11-25, drawn to a method of treating inflammation in a subject which comprises administering to the subject soluble receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (sRAGE, SEQ ID NO:1), classified in class 514, subclass 2;
- II. Claim 2, part of claims 7-9 and part of claims 11-25, drawn to a method of treating inflammation in a subject which comprises administering to the subject a polypeptide consisting essentially of the V-domain (SEQ ID NO:2) of receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE), classified in class 514, subclass 2; and
- III. Claims 3-6, part of claims 7-9, claim 10, part of claims 11-13 and part of claims 16-25, drawn to a method of treating inflammation in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an agent in an amount which inhibits the interaction between receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE) and its ligand, classified in class 514, subclass 2.

Further, the Examiner will restrict the pending claims to one of the following allegedly distinct species under 35 U.S.C. §121 if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable:

- (i) Arthritis;
- (ii) Colitis;
- (iii) Crohn's disease;